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California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

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TO: Debbie Irvin
Clerk to the Board
SWRCB

FROM: Tom Pinkos
Executive Officer

DATE: 3 June 2005

SIGNATURE: _____

SUBJECT: BAY-DELTA 1995 WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN PERIODIC REVIEW
COMMENTS

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the material presented in the Periodic Review Workshops for the 1995 Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. Regional Board staff has reviewed and is commenting on this material as part of our on-going coordination of efforts with State Board staff as they relate to San Joaquin River water quality issues. These comments and supporting information should provide the State Board with information needed to assist in its preparation of responses to comments received during the workshops, as well as provide information on the relationship of the periodic review topics to on-going Regional Board programs. The attached staff report provides detailed comments that refer to materials submitted to the State Board on the following issues:

- San Joaquin River Flows and Flow Modeling
- South Delta and San Joaquin River Salinity Objectives
- Drinking Water Objectives

Reference is made in our comments to the effect that changes to flow and salinity objectives would have on our water quality control efforts. In summary, our staff recommendation is to make no change at this time to the existing South Delta and San Joaquin River salinity objectives and Vernalis flow objectives. We also recommend that the effect of any changes on on-going Regional Board dissolved oxygen and salinity control efforts be considered before making any changes to flow and salinity standards. Finally, we recommend that the State Board first consider approval of the Regional Board's Basin Plan Amendments and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Salt and Boron, and Dissolved Oxygen before making any changes to the flow and salinity standards in the Bay-Delta Plan.

If you have any questions concerning these comments or the attached staff report, please e-mail or telephone Les Grober at lgrober@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 464-4851.

Attachment: Regional Board Staff Comments on Material Presented to State Board During the Periodic Review Workshops for the 1995 Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan

California Environmental Protection Agency

